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STEVENS' DIARY¹

Journal of James Stevens, who lived in Halifax County, Virginia, and went to Scotland in 1786, for the purpose of procuring mill stones, bolting cloths and other stores for his flour mill and business establishment in Halifax County. The first page of the journal has been mutilated. The journal itself begins, however, with his arrival at Norfolk from up the river.

"Passage in the Ship Nancy to Portsmouth and Norfolk to clear out and procure fresh flour, where we stayed that night, after finishing our business at those towns. Next day we returned to the Brig at Hampton, wind still at East. Next day being the 8th, saw the Harrison, Kerr from Spain, the Isabella, McCallister and the Neptune, Bell Master from Glasgow. Wind at East. The tenth the first mate and I went on board the Harrison and procured five hundred lemons; the 11th we went to Hampton and got some necessarys in that Town. The 12th weighed anchor and took our departure from Hampton Roads and got past Cape Henry, where we were obliged to come to an anchor same night. Next morning we

¹ We are indebted to General W. H. Carter, U. S. A., for a copy of this diary. The way in which this sedate Scotchman, who was evidently a devout Presbyterian, occupied himself during a visit to his native country, is quite different from the life of many other Virginians who spent most of their time "at home", in London or Bath.

weighed anchor and took our last departure from Cape Henry and got to sea—thick fogs and calmings. Gulph stream one hundred leagues off the continent; rough seas. The sixteenth at night much thunder and lightning, attended with heavy showers; wind at west and by south. A ship to windward next morning, which seemed to wish to speak us but could not. The twentieth wind north and by east with heavy seas; obliged to lay to next day. Dead lights up, much rain with thunder and lightning. June the first we spoke Captain Brakster, the Brig Providence from Ireland in Longitude 43, bound to Newfoundland, being out 26 days from Waterford. The eighth we saw a Solan goose, from which we expected we were nearer land than we were. The tenth wind still to east. The seventeenth Longitude 11 we saw a large ship, seemed to be a man of war and a brig to leeward, wind still at east. The eighteenth saw two brigs to windward, wind at east, saw weeds. The nineteenth we spoke the Aurora Brig, Captain Tweed from Demarera, bound to Liverpool, out nine weeks, who desired to be put in the papers—moderate breezes. Same day saw a sloop to leeward. The twentieth we spoke a sloop from Messina, out nine weeks. Spoke the ship Boyd from Jamaica bound to Bristol, out eleven weeks, who from their reckoning judged they were near land. The same afternoon we made the norwest coast of Ireland, eleven leagues off, where were agreeably entertained next morning with the fishermen, who told us if we would give them a bottle of rum, they would give us a fish for nothing. However we were obliged to give them two bottles for fish—moderate breezes with some calmings. We got variety of fish, such as mackerel, noud, heck, lythe, haddock, cod and ling. There are vast numbers of fishing boats on this coast. The people during the fishing season live along the shore in huts. The twenty-seventh we arrived safe at Greenock.² After dinner I waited on Mr. William Hamilton with a letter of introduction from Mr. Robert Donald, Vir-

² Greenock was then the port of Glasgow. At that time the Clyde at the city itself was only 180 feet wide and 3 feet deep. Now it has been opened to the width of 500 feet and depth suitable to large ocean-going steamers.

ginia, who gave me a polite reception. Next day I hired a boat and set off for Glasgow, where I landed in the afternoon very wet. In the evening I was much diverted with the humors of the fishmongers at the Broomylaw, which to me had a strange appearance. Twenty-ninth a new scene opened to my view, wherein I apprehended danger. A wild horse (for so he may be called) broke away from his keeper and like to run over some of the people. I am sure nothing but the interposition of Divine providence could have protected them from the impetuosity of that fierce animal, when they cried out *kep him, kep him*, a term I had forgot as well as many others which I am at a loss to express in writing. Same day I waited on my worthy friend, Mr. Blair, who (after I made myself known) gave me a kind welcome and was of great service in helping me to refit—my rigging being much damaged by the long disagreeable passage I had. Saturday, the first of July, my rigging being finished, the next thing was to see my my brother (for I was ashamed to see him in my dishabille), who I knew would expect me to be very rich after being near 18 years in Virginia, and in consequence of which made a grand appearance; however this happened not to be the case. My brother upon knowing I was from Virginia and that I was acquainted with his brother (whom he had not had a letter from for 23 months) was very glad to see me. He asked if I knew whether he enjoyed his health, and whether the world smiled or frowned on him. I answered I had reason to believe he was well in health, but otherways had but little to say. He said he had received advice of my coming home last year, but from his not hearing from me any manner of way for near two years concluded I must be dead, or perhaps perished at sea. Drinking some porter and a good deal of conversation having passed, in the course of which I was obliged to turn my face aside, being so moved at the concern he expressed for my welfare, at last to his agreeable surprise I reached out my hand and embraced him and told him I was his brother. Upon a serious reflection I am in hopes that this will be thought no great deception, as it is the duty of every rational

creature to be well acquainted with him, or herself agreeable to a noble writer—it is our misfortune to be better acquainted with others than ourselves—our only study being, first to know ourselves and what we were intended for. After drinking the other mug the next thing was to see our sister and her little family. My brother being with me I made myself known immediately, which with the great surprise, together with commemorating the great loss she had sustained in her family, caused her to shed tears mingled with joy and grief at once. Next day being Sunday, I proposed being Churched,³ but my brother being preengaged otherwise I was attended to the new chapel (which contains upwards of 1700 people) by my friend Mr. Blair, where I had the pleasure of hearing the Revd. James Stevens lecture on the first and 2d and preach upon the 3d verse of the 12th Chapter of Paul's Epistle to the Romans, from whence I returned (in the interval of public worship) with Mr. Blair, who attended me to the chapel in the afternoon, where we heard another fine sermon on the same text, from which place we returned to my friend's house, where we spent the remainder of the day very agreeably.

Monday. The Delph House I have just had a full view of, which may be justly ranked among the curiosities of this place. I am just invited to drink tea at six at night with a gentleman and lady of my brother's acquaintance. Mr. Jameson, one of Buchanan, Hartie & Company's partners (whose employ I had formerly been in) waited on me very politely to know how I left Major Hartie and what success he met with in settling their affairs in Virginia.

Tuesday, the fourth, I set out (under convoy of Mr. Hardy) to see Partuk⁴ Wheat Mills, which from the grand apparatus, I am unable to describe; they have wire bolting cloths of five sizes.

Wednesday, the fifth, in the afternoon, I set off in a passage boat for Greenock, where we arrived half past three next morning, expecting to meet with some arrivals from Virginia,

³ "Churched" was doubtless a service of thanksgiving for his safe voyage.

⁴ Partick now a suburb of Glasgow.

being anxious to hear from my family and friends there, but was disappointed.

Thursday the great Fair came on at that place which continued all the week, where all the different trades parade each having a band of music and all in their different uniforms, the shoe makers excelling all the rest with their great King Crispiana, with his champions riding before and his train bearers behind. The Royal Robes and the whole apparatus, it is said, cost the Town of Glasgow near five hundred pounds. Next day I walked up to Newport Glasgow, two miles distant, where I was kindly received by Mr. Carmicheal, Surgeon (who had been in the East Indies) with whom I dined, being agreeably entertained with a description of the different qualities of certain plants, together with a view of the India Gold and Silver fish which he had in a glass font of water upon a table, after which I returned to Greenock, where I spent the evening very agreeably with Mr. Hamilton, with whom, together with Mr. Wilson, I set off next morning for Glasgow, where we reached by midday, which being Sunday, after a little repast I attended at the chapel, where the Revd. Mr. McCloud preached a fine sermon on these words "He is despised and rejected of men"—Isaiah 53 & 3, from whence I returned with my good old friend Mr. Blair.

Monday, the tenth, I walked with my fellow passenger a mile out to see the west end of the Grand Canal. On our way out we met a dog pulling a four wheeled carriage with a woman and two twin children in it. Among the number of elegant buildings on the River Clyde, it may not be amiss to take notice of Lord Samples,⁵ which has upwards of three hundred doors and windows.

Sunday, 16th, I set out for Baldernock, six miles distant, attended by Mr. Buchanan and his lady, where I had the pleasure of hearing the Revd. Mr. Cooper preach on the 2 Epistle of Paul to Timothy 1 & 10. Here I had a view of the

⁵ Hugh, 13th Lord Sempill, or Semple. John and James Semple, who emigrated to Virginia in 1752, were sons of Rev. James Semple, minister of Dregghorn, Scotland, and came of a younger branch of this family.

ruins of my ancestors, which are all interred in this Churchyard. Next day I wasted on a cousin I had in that parish. Tuesday I visited a number of old acquaintances, when I thought seven women would have taken hold of me they were all so glad to see me. In the afternoon I went up to Bulloch-chain Moor with Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Harvy to view the old Castle and the three wives lift, &c. Wednesday the 19th went to Kirkintilloch, four miles distant, to a young lady's burial, the mother being an old acquaintance I was admitted to partake of every part of the ceremony as one of the relations and supported on the right side of the corpse to the churchyard, where she was interred. This was the first corpse I had seen for upwards of eighteen years. The ceremony being over I returned to Glasgow in the evening. Saturday 22 I walked out to Calder (4 miles distant) to the sacrament, where I heard the Revd. Mr. Lapsly preach Mathew XIII & 23 & Mr. Dunn Psalms 26 & 2, from which place went over Kelvin to a cousin's and returned to Calder Church next day, where I was introduced into Mr. Stevenson's pew and had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Dunn Senr. preach his action sermon on Solomon II & 4, after which saw the table service.

Mr. Dunn being desirous to see me I was introduced to him by Mr. Buchanan, one of his elders, who notwithstanding the great business of that day pressed me to dine with the minister and made me promise to call on him again before I left Britain. The day being finished I returned to my cousin's again and went back next day, where I heard Mr. McCulloch preach on Luke X & 42 and Mr. Crawford on Peter III—11 & 12 and Mr. Cooper on Peter III & 18. Mr. McCulloch preached on Sunday night. Tuesday I had an invitation to breakfast with my old friend John Stevens, where I was agreeably entertained with his son and nephew James and his only daughter. After breakfast his son conducted me through the college garden, which is very extensive and beautifully diversified with walks and a number of shrubs &c., with an observatory in it, from whence we returned and I engaged to dine with them next day, being preengaged to dine that day with Mr. Millar,

where I was introduced to the Miss Hunters, sisters-in-law to Mr. Millar, one of which had been four years in Virginia at her uncle Sprouls⁶ in Gosport, which made the company the more agreeable, she being very conversable and had seen some of my acquaintances in Virginia. This evening Mr. Stevens and the two clergymen, his son and nephew, waited on me at my room, where we spent the evening very agreeably. Next day I dined with them, when it was remarked three of us being of the same name and surname. After the dinner the old gentlemen walked through the college garden and the college with me, where I had a view of the library in a room 36 by 60 high pitched all round full of books. In the Divinity Hall was the different principals and professors in effigy, who had departed this life, among which are Martin Luther and John Calvin and others who suffered martyrdom on account of their religion, in all, exclusive of Principal Lishman, who died last winter, being the only one I remembered seeing in this life. In the great hall are three elegant pictures viz: the first Raphael's carrying our Savior from the cross to the tomb, assisted by Joseph of Arimathea, supporting the principal weight; the next St. John dressed in blue with a red mantle hanging over his left shoulder; the next in order is Nicodemus, an alderly man, in whose countenance the remains of freshness are more mel-
lowed than that of Joseph's, his head and beard are grey. The principal of the other group, which consists of 4 figures, is the blessed Virgin, who faints; her countenance is pale; her eyes shut; her mouth a little open. Her body is supported by 2 maids; the one behind clasping her arms around the Virgin's waist; the one before applies a hand to each side, which support her breast below the arms. The other maid who supports is wholly occupied with the Virgin; her back is turned toward the spectator and her face toward the object of her care. The dimensions of this picture are $5 \frac{2}{3}$ feet in breadth and the same in length. Any stranger who can view this scene without being deeply affected must be past feeling when he beholds the paleness of the Redeemer's face; how exhausted of blood;

⁶ Andrew Sprowle, long a merchant at Gosport, Portsmouth, Va.

how meek the expression; how unassumed the fortitude; what sufferings are marked to have preceded death and the blood trickling down from His side, hands and feet.

The School at Athens, the dimensions of which copy are fifteen feet in breadth by ten in height. In this cut is a lively representation of the School of Pythagoras, which is the most ancient of all the schools represented. Immediately behind is the School of Socrates, the first who received philosophy after Pythagoras. Then follows next in order the School of Plato, the most eminent in philosophy of all the disciples of Socrates. Then follows the School of Aristotle, the most illustrious of all the disciples of Plato. No philosopher was ever heard with greater veneration than Pythagoras; above three hundred of his disciples became famous authors, of whose works there remain only a few fragments, to the great regret of all the lovers of ancient wisdom.

Mr. Foulis refused three hundred pounds for this by a lady. The Martyrdom of Saint Catherine. The dimensions of this picture are five feet seven inches in height by four feet in breadth. The wheel on which St. Catherine was to suffer is on the extremity of the picture. Before the wheel stands two assistants to the executioner, the one having two ropes in his hands, the other a spear; both are in armour; they are of dark and grim complexions. The arm of St. Catherine seems by the two so twisted with the cord as to be out of joint. She kneels on a cushion fringed with gold; her drapery is white satin and blue silk; her eyes looking upwards, but the expression exceedingly calm and temperate; great meekness of character, heightened by youth, beauty and the features of innocence. Behind her are two young ladies; the one to the right has dark hair and a fair complexion; her right hand is lifted to her cheek and in it a handkerchief; the tears are falling down her cheeks and her whole expression shows a profound and tender grief. The other lady supports the long hair of St. Catherine with her left hand, bending forward to an old priest asking whether any mercy was to be expected for St. Catherine. He answers by pointing to a statue on a pedestal that by submit-

ting to the person whose statue is exhibited there favor might be found. This is the statue of Maximin, under whom she is said to have suffered. It is said Maximin put her to death as Christian to revenge her refusal of being his mistress—Oh what a monster he must have been.

Thursday the 3d August I set out for Lochlong, 37 miles distant to visit Mr. Robert Hope, where I arrived in the afternoon and spent the evening very agreeably. Next day we dined at Mr. Todd's on Lochlomond,⁷ where we were politely entertained. Sunday we went to church, this being in the Highlands the minister preached two sermons, one in Gaelic and the other in English. This evening we dined down the loch with Mr. Campbell and his lady of Colessan. On our way up we drank tea with Captain Campbell after spending a few days in this part of the country very agreeably.

Wednesday the 9th I took my passage in a boat down Lochlong⁷ into Clyde and up to Greenock, where I arrived the same night (with an expectation of hearing from Virginia) I stayed till Friday when I went up the Clyde to Glasgow. Saturday I drank tea with my old acquaintance, Mr. Stevens's family who prevailed on me to go to Shittlestown Sacrament next day, 3 miles distant. Mr. James the younger who preached first* introduced me into the Tent, where I continued till I heard three more ministers preach, after which I returned to Glasgow to my lodgings. Beginning now to be impatient for the arrival of the Mary, Captain McKie from Virginia (who has my tobacco on board) that I might return to my family, obliges me to omit several little scenes only that of attending the public theater, where several actors and actresses performed very well. The house is very elegant and a great concourse of

⁷ Scotland and Glasgow before Burns and Sir Walter seem strange to us. The country around, within one or two hours travel by rail, from Ayr in the south to Ben Lomond in the north, has for the modern visitor a wealth of interest undreamed of by James Stevens and his contemporaries. Now the passing years have brought another change, and the average visitor to Scotland knows almost as little of the works of these men as did our traveller. Some one (Lamb?) said that there was a compensation for age in being born soon enough to see Mrs. Siddons act. It is a real compensation to people over fifty that they do not know their Scott and Burns from the guide book alone.

* Revelation 3 & 18; Solomon 1 & 7; Math. 6 & 23; Habak. 3 & 17.

people attended, yet notwithstanding the grand apparatus I thought it prudent to decline so expensive an amusement. The 20th being the preparation Sabbath at the chapel I attended there as also the Sacrament Sabbath, where there were upwards of 1500 communicants including myself, this being the second time I partook of this sacred ordinance since my arrival in Britain. Mr. Stevens preached the action sermon from the Revelation of St. John 2 & 18, his colleague Mr. McCloud preached at night with candles lighted on these words: "The God of the Hebrews hath met with us; let us go, we pray thee, three days journey into the desert and sacrifice unto the Lord our God." I attended on Thursday, Saturday and the whole of this occasion. 30th I drank tea last evening with the two clergymen and James, the elder sister at a Miss Corner's, where we were agreeably entertained. Next Friday night Miss Corner returns the visit when I shall make one of the company at their own house. My anxiety is too great to detail every little circumstance. However I shall still continue to adhere as much as possible to my good friends company.

Thursday 31 not being fully satisfied with the pictures in the College, I went and reviewed them all over again and got three books in which there is a great deal of good reading besides a description of a variety of pictures.

Sunday 3d September I walked out to Woodside with the Revd. Mr. James Stevens, where I had the pleasure of hearing him lecture on the latter part of the first Psalm and preach on these words "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." 1st Corinthians 3 & 11.

Tuesday the 5th I breakfasted at Mr. Galloways at the request of a lady from Edinburgh who wished to hear something of her friends in Virginia.* This evening I was visited by my friend Mr. Stevens and the two clergymen with whom I have all along kept up a very friendly intercourse and as such company must be the most wholesome shall still continue so to do.

Wednesday morning, white frost. This evening I had an

* Mrs. Hart who has 2 sons in Petersburg.

invitation to hear the Revd. Mr. James Stevens (a young man from the West of this—licensed about four months) preach at the chapel, on these words “He that saith he abideth in Him, ought himself also to walk, even as He walked (1st Epistle of John 2 & 6). This man, notwithstanding a young preacher, gave general satisfaction to the hearers.

The 9th set off in the stage for Greenock, where we arrived in the evening, the remainder of which I spent with Mr. William Hamilton with whom I supped. This gentleman very politely invited me to take a seat in Church with him next day, where I had the pleasure of hearing the Revd. Mr. Read after a fine lecture preach on Ecclesiastes 5 & first. In the interval of public worship the Nelly sailed for Caills in Spain. Wednesday the Helena, Captain Crawford, and the Isabella, McCallister for Virginia, the first of which I wrote by. On Friday after unloading the Mary and her cargo being inspected, there was a dinner given at the White Hart at the expense of all who had tobacco on board the Brigantine Mary, Captain Mackie, an American vessel, as she had 10 hhds for me I was obliged to be one of the guests. The same evening I returned to Glasgow by water.

Sunday the 17th I attended at the English Chapel, where I heard two fine sermons, one on these words, “Though after this life worms destroy my body, yet in my flesh shall I see God” (Job). The other I forgot, being so ravished with the organ and singing boys, which I think if there be any such thing as Heavenly music on earth this comes the nearest, notwithstanding the most of the other professions here disapprove of it.

The 8th instant I dined at Mr. Moses Stevens, in company with the Revd. Mr. James Stevens, junr., his Uncle—Captain Graham—and Mr. Gow, where I was constrained to stay and drink tea, in the interval of which I was very agreeably entertained, the old lady, his mother, being rather clanish, is remarkably fond of the name, although no relation.

Tuesday the Circuit Judges came to town for the trial of criminals. The same day they opened court in the council

chamber, where I attended with a number of spectators. This appeared to me to be performed with great solemnity, the court being fenced with a prayer by one of the ministers. The first prisoner called for was John Cox for shop breaking, who appeared by his attorney to be insane, and was sent back to jail till six at night that his witnesses might be ready. The next called for was Kenneday Murry for theft, who rather than risk a trial petitioned by his attorney for banishment for the term of three years, which was granted by amending the petition and adding a few more years. At six Cox's trial came on, when a cloud of witnesses were called upon in behalf of the prisoner, among which were Dr. Parland and another physician who had attended him in jail in order to try his intellectuals, but from the whole chain of the evidence (one excepted) it did not appear that the prisoner had any notion of right or wrong, the being of a God or a future state of rewards and punishments.

Wednesday, the 20th, I attended at the trial of Elizabeth Paul and Daniel McKay, both for theft, the first said to be an old offender, a woman of bad character, habits and repute a thief. Her indictment being read she was asked if she was guilty; she answered not guilty, whereupon their Lordships found the libel relevant to infer the pains of law and several witnesses were examined; the Advocate repute summed up the evidence on the part of the crown, and Mr. Clerk advocate for the pannel, when the Lord Justice Clerk charged the jury in a very able speech, and the jury having inclosed in a short time returned a verdict unanimously finding the libel proven. Their Lordships delayed pronouncing sentence till to-morrow one o'clock.

David say Daniel McKay being called to the Bar and the indictment read to him he was asked if he was guilty of the crime libelled, to which he made answer he was, upon which their Lordships found the libel relevant to infer the pains of law and remitted the pannel to a verdict of an assize, and after several witnesses were examined the advocate repute summed up the evidence on the part of the crown and the pannel's advo-

cate for his part, when their Lordships charged the jury, after which they were inclosed, and in a short time returned a verdict unanimously finding the libel proven, when their Lordships delayed passing sentence till the time aforesaid.

Kenneday Murray was brought to the Bar charged with house breaking and habit and repute a thief. Mr. Hogg advocate presented a petition signed by the pannel craving to be banished, which the advocate depute consented to, on which he was ordered back to prison.

September 21st the Court met according to appointment, and Daniel McKay being brought to the Bar was sentenced to be banished for life. Next Kenneday Murray was called to the bar and was sentenced to be banished for fourteen years with certification if ever he was found in Scotland during that period he was to be whipped upon the next Wednesday after his being brought to Glasgow prison. John Cox was ordered to be detained in jail till sufficient caution be found acted in the Books of journal that he shall be kept in some secure so as not to hurt the public under the penalty of five hundred marks.

September 21st the Court met according to appointment and Elizabeth Paul being brought to the bar the verdict of the assize was read to her, and after the Judge had long reasoned on the heinousness of her crime, afterwards passed sentence, which was: to be carried back to prison until the 25th day of next October, and on that day to be taken from thence to the common place of execution and there to be hanged by the neck betwixt the hour of 2 and 4 o'clock afternoon until she was dead. Lord Justice Clerk admonished her the short time she had to live in preparing for a future state, and warned the spectators to take warning by the poor unhappy woman now at the bar, especially young persons, by showing how hard it was to bring those persons who had been addicted to vicious habits off from them.

Criminals here have a very fair chance for their lives. There is only one witness examined at a time, so that the next never hears what the former one says. Their manner of administering the oath I think more solemn than in some countries

which is administered by the Judge saying thus: I swear by Almighty God, and as I shall answer at the great day of judgment to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth as I know and shall be asked, all which the witness repeats, after which the judge asks if he has received any reward or has been told what to say, or if he owes the prisoner any malice, which being answered no he is examined in the strictest manner.

Friday, 6th October, went out in the Whisky⁸ with Mr. Wardrob with whom I dined in company with his sister, Mr. and Mrs. Duncan and Miss Moorhead and returned the same night attended by a servant in the Whisky.

Saturday I attended the riders who exhibited horsemanship in all its various branches, after which dined with Mr. McGown and at night attended the Tumbling Boys in the Merchants Hall, where they walked and tumbled on the slack rope, etc., with great dexterity.

Sunday 8th I went to the Chapel where I had the pleasure of hearing the Revd. Mr. Stevens lecture on Paul's Epistle to the Romans XIII—1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. In the afternoon I went to the Hill and Church, where I had the happiness to hear the Revd. Mr. Fraiser.

Wednesday evening the 9th drank tea at Moses Stevens, where there was only ten in company, nine of which were Stevens's, three of the same name and surname, viz: The Revd. James Senr. and Junr., and myself. The same night supped with the Revd. Mr. McCalla at Mr. Charles Duncan's. The preceding night I supped at the Black Bull with two of my old school fellows. The night following supped with my creditors at Mr. Dury's. Friday morning went down to Greenock in the stage coach. Sunday hired a boat and returned by water in quest of the sloop James, Captain Ferguson, who had my goods on board carrying down to the Ship Cunningham, Captain Patterson, and which I found aground near Dumbarton but could not get near her, it being low water. Monday I went down by water again. However the James had got off

⁸ This, "Whisky", was a kind of horse chaise.

in the night at high water and was at Greenock before me which gave me great ease in mind. Being advised by Doctor Carmichael to let blood and ride for a bad cold, I had returned on horseback to Glasgow on Wednesday with an expectation of seeing my friends from the country, it being market day. Saturday I dined with the clergymen at my old friends Jno. Stevens.

Sunday 22d I attended at the Chapel, where the Revd. Mr. McCloud preached in the forenoon on these words "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Mathew VI & 13, and the Revd. Mr. Stevens in the afternoon on these "O Ephraim what shall I do unto thee, O Judah what shall I do unto thee; for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away." The latter I spent the evening very agreeably with at his uncle's.

Monday evening 23rd, John, James Senr. and Junr., and Miss Nancy Stevens, Moses Stevens and his mother drank tea with me at my lodgings, where we spent the night very agreeably.

Wednesday morning breakfasted with Moses and his mother. This day Elizabeth Paul was executed in the Castle yard for stealing. She was attended to the place of execution by the Revd. Mr. McCloud and Mr. Perry and a number of spectators. I only viewed her out at a meadow as they went along, which to me appeared very melancholy.

Thursday 26th I was entertained with a view of the Tiger from Bengal in the East Indias and Bear from Russia.

Saturday the 28th I took leave of my friends at Glasgow and set off in company with Mr. Wilson, Mr. Spence and others in a boat bound for Greenock, which place we reached at nine o'clock at night.

1786, October, Sunday, 12 o'clock, went on board the Cunningham at the tail of the bank and got under way by one o'clock, in order to reach our desired port, City Point, James River, Virginia, as soon as may be."

* * * * *

The remainder of the book was taken up with the daily

journal, giving observations of longitude and latitude, making of sail, ordinary routine of the ship, etc.

"Friday night dropped anchor in Hampton Roads. Sunday evening went to Norfolk; returned next day. Wednesday 3d January, 1787, weighed anchor and proceeded up James River."

The following copies of two letters are also found in the book containing the journal:

"Glasgow, 1st Sept., 1786.

Gentlemen:

I am just favored with yours of the 26th ultimo, and am much obliged to you for your care in forwarding the mill-stones; only I should have been glad to have seen them at the west end of the Canal that I might have had Mr. McKell's opinion of them. However, I have no doubt of their being agreeable to the instructions. The commission is lower and the freight higher than I expected. I thought stones went by the ton, but of this more anon. The one you mention of the 18, I have not had the pleasure to receive. It is my detention here makes me uneasy for the arrival of Mary, Captain Mackie; my long absence from my family, besides my losing the first of the market of what I carry out with me. The bolting cloths I wish you would have lodged at Mr. Gray's.

Yours etc.,

James Stevens."

Glasgow, 2d September, 1786.

Sir:

I am sorry you have called so often without seeing me. For awhile I always left word when I went out when I would return again, but expecting every one that wanted had seen me I gave over this precaution. However first time you come to town shall be very glad to see you. In the interim tender my compliments to Mrs. Hendry and wish you all the happiness that can attend the married life.

Yours etc.

James Stevens.

William Hendry, Esq.

"Glasgow, 6th September, 1786.

Gentlemen :

Yours of Monday's date I am duly favored with. The bolting cloths I expected might been lodged somewhere about this place and that case wished to pack them up here but as they are at Greenock it will be needless to send them back when they are so far on the way.

Mr. Robert Donald⁹ certainly means to perish me out here. It is very strange to receipt for tobacco to be shipped in a week or two after I left Virginia not to be here yet. When he found he could not charter a vessel so soon as he expected I wish he had put in on board some other. I would freely paid double freight rather than been here so long.

Gentlemen,

Yours most hbbs servant,

James Stevens.

Messrs. Hamilton, Wilson & Co.,

Merchants,

Greenock."

⁹ Robert Donald was a Scotch merchant who long carried on a very extensive business in Virginia. In 1774 he was a member of the Chesterfield County Committee of Safety and in November 1779 married Nancy Osborne of that county.